REMARKS

This is responsive to the Office Action dated April 4, 2005 in which the Examiner rejects all the pending claims 1- 38 as being anticipated by Sixtus (US Patent No. 5,903,721) under 35USC §102(b).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. In particular, Applicants respectfully disagree with the interpretations of the meaning of the term "trust" in the application, as explained below.

As clearly described in the original Specification, the term "trust" in the present application means a relationship between two sets of computers that allows users in one of the sets of computers to access resources in another set of the computers in a secure way (page 5, lines 23-25). In other words, a trust relationship between a trusting computer and a trusted computer allows the trusted computer to <u>access resources</u> in the trusting computer in a secure way. In the art, Microsoft Corporation defines "trust relationship" as: "A trust relationship allows users and global groups from another user account database to be used. It is a link between domains that enables pass-through authentication, in which a trusting domain honors the logon authentications of a trusted domain. With trust relationships, a user who has only one user account in one domain can potentially access the entire network. User accounts and global groups defined in a trusted domain can be given rights and resource permissions in a trusting domain, even though those accounts do not exist in the trusting domain's directory database." (see page 5, lines 12-22 of the Specification).

Applicants respectfully submit that Sixtus (US Patent No. 5,903,721) is remote from the present invention. Sixtus discloses a method for executing a secure online transaction between a vendor computer and a user computer, in which the user computer is authenticated by a third party (a trust server). In this way, no sensitive information (such as credit card information) needs to be transmitted over the data network. However, Sixtus does not discuss the trust relationship, which is

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explained above, among different computers. In fact, Sixtus does not disclose or discuss whether a computer is allowed to access resources of another computer. Throughout the Office Action, the Examiner apparently improperly interprets the term "trust" with its general meaning while reading the claim language. For example, that the vendor compute trusts the trust server does not mean that the vendor computer is allowed to access resources in the trust computer. Similarly, that the trust server trusts (authenticates) the user computer shall not be interpreted as that the trust server is allowed to access resources in the user computer.
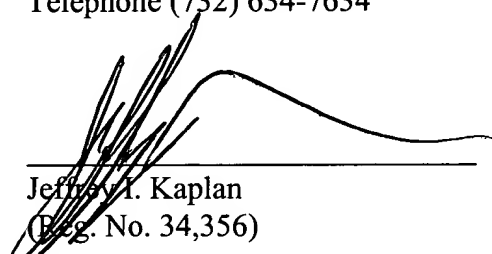
Therefore, Applicants believe that all the pending claims 1-23, 25-27 and 29-38 are not anticipated by Sixtus, and are therefore patentable.

Applicants thus respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the above remarks. The Examiner is authorized to deduct additional fees believed due from our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service as first class mail, in a postage prepaid envelope, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>July 6, 2005</u>.

Dated <u>July 6, 2005</u> Signed _____ Print Name <u>Paula M. Halsey</u>

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